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Editorial Page of "The Capital Journal"

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THE PASSING OF AN OLD FAMILY

In a little more than three days Oregon will be dry. Already Mr. Booze and his partner John Barleycorn are packing their grip sacks and rolling their blankets, preparatory to their departure. Old "Demon Rum," is powdering his nose and eating caramels to get the scent off his breath and qualify for appearing in sober society. The whole family is going out of business indefinitely, although as yet just what they will engage in has not been decided. The tall High Ball and the slender shanked Cock Tail may hike for Alaska or perhaps Nevada in the Spring seeking congenial company, and a higher place in social circles. The comedian Mr. Wine, who is said to be a great mimic and mocker will retire from the stage permanently; while his lowly brother Mr. Beer will go for a long visit to his uncle Mr. Schnapps in "Pizen Switch," Texas. They are all going sometime Friday night, and their many friends will meet in Portland to see them off. They are all of the very first families of the state, being of pioneer stock, and have a wide circle of friends who will sincerely regret their departure. It is probable none of them will ever return to the state, so at the gathering Friday night it will not be au revoir, but a long farewell.

A BADLY MIXED AFFAIR

The recent land grant conference was somewhat inconsistent. It held the Southern Pacific had but an equity of \$2.50 an acre in the granted lands, but asserted they should be taxed for more. At the same time the Southern Pacific is just as inconsistent. It claims it owns the lands in fee simple and that its interest in the lands is much more than \$2.50 an acre; that it owns the timber and minerals in or on the lands, and has the right to sell or remove the same. At the same time it refuses to pay taxes on any greater sum than the \$2.50 an acre claiming that it is all the interest it has in them that is taxable. Each contestant says the others assertions are ambiguous, and there you are. It might be added that a lawyer once explained an ambiguity thus: "An ambiguity is a thing ambiguous, but if I create an ambiguity it is not ambiguous to me but plain as a pikestaff."

Dogberry himself would be shamed into admiration of such clearly stated premises and such lucid and overwhelming conclusions. That is about the way the public feels about the position of both parties to the dispute.

Congress is up against it, having a job on its hands of discovering a tax that will not be displeasing to some one. The autoists objected strenuously to a tax on gasoline, though they will burn up lots of it uselessly and foolishly. The proposed tax on gas engines met with strenuous opposition as soon as it was even hinted at. The suggestion of taxes on checks and things of that kind made business men kick like Jeshurun, though perhaps not for the same reason. Sacred history tells us "Jeshurun waxed fat and kicked;" but it was probably because he objected to being fat, while in this modern case the businessmen probably kicked against having the fat fried out of them in that manner. And so it goes. No matter what is taxed, whoever has the tax to pay finds something outrageous in the law. It is evident the French savant was right when he said "the tariff was the best tax ever discovered because it yielded the greatest amount of feathers with the least amount of squawking from the goose." That is the beauty of the tariff tax, that it is never in evidence but is always administered in a capsule, where it cannot be seen or tasted.

A Missourian aged 94 has just been married for the fourth time, his wife being a giddy young thing of 39. At the wedding two or three dozen of his children, those that were handy, attended to give their old dad a send off, and some 100 or more grand children attended the services. Next time he marries he should make a real family affair of it and have the whole tribe present.

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SAVINGS DEPARTMENT

Yuan Shi Kai is already finding that, "uneasy lies the head that wears a crown," is not merely a sentiment, but a real, hard, substantial fact. Three of the principal provinces, those on which he relied most for loyal support, are on the fence and may drop off on the side away from the new born monarchy. Here in America, the Chinese are divided on the subject but there seems to be a strong objection to his wearing a crown and destroying the republic. Already it is reported the raising of funds to support the revolution certain to come, has begun; and it is claimed that 10,000 or more skilled gunmen now in this country will return to China to take part against him. It seems America is bound to be mixed up in some way with all the wars that start, no matter where they are. Next thing we will be making toms toms and gongs, more deadly than shells and dum-dum bullets, for the Asiatic hordes to assassinate each other with.

The latest figures on the expense of the war in Europe places the daily cost at \$85,000,000. Of this the Teuton allies are paying about \$28,000,000; and the others about \$57,000,000. At this rate the cost of another year of war will be about \$30,000,000,000. It is estimated the war has cost to date above \$40,000,000,000. The cost in men cannot be so nearly estimated, for many of the wounded recover and go back to the front again. It is probably not far out of the way to say the loss in men, killed or so badly wounded as to leave them hopelessly sick or helpless, and those who have been taken prisoners, and so are out of the fighting, will amount to at least 8,000,000. Some price to pay for the assassination of a crown prince and his morganatic wife, by a crazy fanatic, but royalty comes high.

The Public Service Commission has started something. It made an order Monday commanding physical connection between the Southern Pacific railroad and the Oregon Electric at Albany. The S. P. will object most strenuously to obeying the order, for it will compel it to carry freight, say from Portland to points south of Albany on the S. P. lines, that is carried from Portland to Albany on the Oregon Electric, thus depriving itself of the longer haul it feels naturally belongs to it. It is safe to say the order will not be obeyed at least until the United States courts have passed on it.

The latest news from Dr. Cook is that he was on his way to climb Mount Everest, but had been sidetracked by Germans who thought he was a spy. The story sounds a little fishy, for it was not at all necessary for Cook to go to Asia to climb Mount Everest. He could do it just as well while attending to other affairs at home.

President Wilson is 59 years old today. This will give the Newlyweds an opportunity to have another celebration while on their honeymoon, but wifey has not yet had time to prepare a pair of slippers for "Woody," "Hubby," or what ever it is she designates the president of the United States.



SICKNESS

If we were never stretched in bed, with sickness of some standard brand, with influenza in the head and boils and bunions in each hand, I fear we'd never realize how good and kind the people are; for to the house where sick man sighs, the village trots, with jug and jar. I've been an invalid this fall; all known diseases climbed my frame, and others climbed the garden wall, and waited to get in the game. And people came from here and there, to see if they could help me out, to try to lighten my despair, and place large plasters on my gout. They sawed the wood, they milked the cow, they fed the hens and wound the clock, they packed in water for the frau, and chided at any thankful talk. They sat all night beside my bed, until the morning hours were struck, and held me down when, seeing red, I only longed to run amuck. They brought me chicken soup and pie, and all the things the sick require, and kindness beamed in every eye—the kindness that no wealth can hire. When I recovered from the gout, the mumps, hay fever and catarrh, I said, "It beateth all get out, what thoroughbreds the neighbors are!"

Co-operative Creamery Proposed For Quinaby

(Capital Journal Special Service.)
Quinaby, Ore., Dec. 28.—A mass meeting is called to meet at the Bona Crest school house on Wednesday evening at 7:30 p. m., December 29, 1915, for the purpose of discussing the feasibility of organizing a co-operative creamery. This is a matter that every farmer should be interested in and be on hand to see what arrangements can be made to better the farmers' lot as at present there is too much difference in what the producer receives for his produce and what the consumer has to pay for the same. Let's have a good turnout.
Fred Hargrafen and wife spent Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hargrafen.
Friends and relatives of D. L. Weese

to the number of about 30, had a Christmas dinner and a regular old-time social gathering.
The Franklins also had friends and relatives from Portland to spend Christmas with them.
Mr. Chas. Smith and family, of Pratum, are visiting old-time friends and relatives during the holidays.
Oscar Bair, of Portland, is paying his respects to old acquaintances and visiting the old home.
The Christmas exercises given by the school and literary society was largely attended and the little ones made happy for the presents Santa Claus so freely distributed among them.
WIFE DEMANDS PAY.
Chicago, Dec. 27.—When her husband sued for annulment of their marriage, Mrs. Anna M. Marietta came back at him with a cross suit for \$10,000 for housewife services.



A Galley o' Fun!

ALMOST A TRAGEDY

Time 1 a. m. Scene, The Witherby Sleeping Room.

Mrs. Witherby (shaking her husband and whispering violently).—He-ry! Wake up! Wake up, I say!

Witherby.—Huh! Eh? Ooo!

What's matter?

Mrs. Witherby.—There's someone downstairs.

Witherby (turning over).—Go sleep.

Mrs. Witherby.—Wake up! Someone is down stairs! Hear that noise!

Witherby.—Nonsense! Imagination!

Mrs. Witherby.—Sh! Listen! Hear that!

Witherby.—Wind.

Mrs. Witherby.—The wind, it is? Sh! Is that the wind?

Witherby (rising up)—also his hair!—

—That does sound like something. (Jumps out of bed and runs to door.)

Mrs. Witherby (wildly after him).—Come back! You rash fellow. You night get murdered!

Witherby (locking door).—I was only going to look it. Well, they can't get in here. (His courage rising.)

Don't believe it's anyone, anyway.

Mrs. Witherby.—It is! It is! Just hear them moving about! Oh! why don't you—

Witherby (his teeth beginning to chatter as the noises continue).—Well what?

Mrs. Witherby.—Oh, something! My best silver! You stand there like a stick—

Witherby (tiptoeing to bureau and drawing forth a rusty old revolver).—I'll go after 'em! (Waving it in the air.)

Mrs. Witherby.—Oh, no, you mustn't! You can't tell what they might do.

Witherby (his courage returning).—Yes, I will! (Moves toward door.)

Mrs. Witherby.—You shan't! (Throws herself before him.) Think of the risk!

Witherby.—Nonsense! Come, let me open that door!

Mrs. Witherby.—Never!

Witherby.—Woman do not stand in my way!

Mrs. Witherby (reluctantly).—Well, if you must. But don't go down stairs. Just—

Witherby (paling at the thought).—Perhaps you are right, after all. I tell you what. You open the door a trifle, and I'll stand here ready to fire. (Moves behind the bed.)

Mrs. Witherby.—All right. (Turns the key and slowly opens door to a creak. A moment of awful suspense.)

Witherby (Putting his head out from behind the bed).—I can't see a thing.

Mrs. Witherby (Gathering courage and peering into the hall).—Who's down there?

Voice from below.—Me, Ma'am. O'm jist 'ome from a party.

Witherby (crawling into bed).—You're a nice one to wake me up in the middle of the night like this! Why, I might have killed that girl if I had gone down stairs!

When Greek meets Greek—Uncle Eli queers the show.

KNOWLEDGE.

Once upon a time there lived a man who had no thirst for knowledge.

When his friends met him and asked:

"Do you want to know what will knock that cold?"

The man replied:

"Oh, no!"

Of course, this speedily lost him all his friends, and his state at last was pitiful, indeed.

HARD LINES.

Drummer.—It is pretty hard to get a drink in this town, isn't it?

Landlord (Kansas Hotel).—You bet. Why, you can't even work the snake-bite racket any more unless you carry the snake to the drug-store and let him bite you in the presence of a committee!

REAL MEAN.

Subbute.—You just ought to see my crop of corn! It's the most promising in all the Lonesomehurst district.

Townley.—You don't say? If you have more than two menses don't forget me, will you?

Always Watch This Ad—Changes Often

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We have all kinds of Axes, Sledges, Wedges, Saws and Equipments for the woods.
All kinds of Corrugated Iron for both Roofs and Buildings.
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302 North Commercial Street. Phone 808.

SILVERTON NEWS

(Capital Journal Special Service.)

Silverton, Ore., Dec. 28.—D. C. Kerr is in the southern part of the state, working in the interest of the Fischer Flouring Mill.

M. C. Woodward, of Portland, was transacting business in this city on Monday of this week.

Harry Levy was at Portland, and also Salem, on business last Saturday.

J. S. Starr accompanied by little Miss Verna Starr were week end guests of Silverton friends, returning home Sunday evening.

W. S. Jack and W. E. Laughmiller were combining business and pleasure at the Rose City this week.

Grandma Hosmer is reported as quite ill at the home of her daughter, Mrs. T. E. Preston, with the prevailing complaint, lagrippe.

Elmer Lawrence and Royden Terry were taking in the sights at Portland the first of this week.

Tilman Van Cleave and Ernest Starr were among the many Portland visitors from this place last Saturday.

Miss Eva Miller has been entertaining her friend Miss Amelia Gix at her home northwest of town this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Redfield are nicely settled in the W. C. Andrews house after a very pleasant visit with friends in Washington.

F. C. Warner, who has been spending the past two weeks in eastern Oregon returned Monday. Mr. Warner visited at Deschutes, Bend and Tumalo county while away and came home thinking there is, after all, no place like the Willamette valley.

Mrs. C. W. Keene, Mrs. F. E. Callister and Alfred Coolidge left for Portland last Saturday on the early morning passenger, and they were accompanied home by Miss Eleanor McClaine the same evening.

The Melvin McCullough family, of Saskatchewan, Canada, were registered at the Silverton Hotel Wednesday. Mr. McCullough is the new owner of the J. J. Samuelson property at Hall, Oregon, and they were on their way to take possession of their new home.

E. Gunderson was down to Portland on business a short time the last of the week.

Henry Stevenson, a prominent business man of Seattle, Washington, is in the city for the holidays, a guest at the home of Mrs. G. A. Webb.

Mrs. Caroline Deardorff and son Eli, of Molalla, are spending the holidays with Silverton relatives.

Miss Helen Shepherd, who has been making an extended visit with friends at Pittsburg, Penn., and Cleveland, Ohio, returned home Monday morning. She was accompanied up from Portland by her sister, Miss Fay Shepherd, who returned to the Rose City the same evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Tinglestad entertained the Home Circle at their pleasant home west of this city, last Sunday. There was a fine program rendered and a bounteous lunch was served. A very enjoyable day is reported.

Luna Hoffendorfer, of Portland, was calling on Silverton friends Tuesday. Mr. Hoffendorfer was one of the employees of the Silver Falls Timber company.

Little Ralph Harr is spending the holidays at the home of his grand parents here.

Mrs. Charles Webb was a guest of Mt. Angel friends a few days the past week.

Mrs. John Wolfard has been enjoying a visit from her daughter, Mrs. B. E. Lohr, who returned to her home at Roseburg, Oregon, on Thursday.

Miss Jennie Hartman was in the city from Scotts Mills the first of the week to attend the funeral of her aunt, Mrs. Whitlock.

George McKinley and lady friend from Oregon City were week end guests at the home of his father, Brice McKinley.

Miss Georgia Webb came from Mt. Angel the last of the week to visit at the Charles Webb home.

The George Hubbs family spent the Christmas at Brooks at the home of Mrs. Hubbs' people.

Dr. Christopherson has gone to North Yakima, Washington, to spend the holidays with his brother.

Miss Livingston, one of the grade teachers, accompanied by Miss Lola Riches left on Friday morning for Redmond, Oregon, where they will spend their vacation at the home of the former.

Henry DeGuire was at Black Rock the first of the week on business.

Mr. and Mrs. John Whitlock were in from Selah Springs last Sunday and called at the Charles Hartman home.

Miss Pearl Manning, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Manning, of Gervais, and Pearl Wood, of this city, were married at Salem on Wednesday of this week. Mr. and Mrs. Wood will welcome their many friends at their home on Second street, after a short honeymoon trip.

One of the most happy events of the past week was a surprise party at the W. H. Egan home, on Saturday night. The party was planned in honor of Mrs. Egan's birthday, and was a complete surprise. There were about 45 present and all spent a pleasant evening.

Mrs. Irl B. Lyons spent last Saturday with friends at the Capital City.

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Patterson and baby, of Portland, are guests at the home of Mrs. Patterson's father, L. J. Adams.

Miss Estella Stuart has gone to her home at Molalla for the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. Pina Circle has gone to Drain, Oregon, for a two weeks visit at the home of her brother.

Miss Theresa Humpert came from Mt. Angel Friday evening. After spending the night with her sister, Mrs. Lais she returned home Christmas day.

NEW POSITION OFFERED

Dallas, Ore., Dec. 28.—H. C. Seymour, county school superintendent, it is reported, will resign about February 1 in order to accept appointment as a field worker for the Oregon Agricultural college.

Mr. Seymour is a republican, and has held the office of county school superintendent for three terms.

Through his individual efforts enthusiasm was created among Polk county students in the annual display at the school children's department of the county and state fairs. He has been closely identified with the work of the Dallas Commercial club.

Among possible successors to Mr. Seymour are mentioned H. H. Parson, supervisor in this county; Fred Crowley, of Bicknell, and Professor B. A. Teats, city superintendent of schools in Independence.

A Happy New Year 1916

Can be spent with friends or relatives at a small cost for traveling expenses if you take advantage of the Holiday Rates.

Low Round Trip Tickets

are on sale between all Southern Pacific stations in Oregon on Friday, December 31, and Saturday, January 1. Return limit of January 4th.

Special Loop Train via the Southern Pacific Electric line will run Portland to McMinnville and return on the above dates.

Ask our agent for further particulars.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC

J. M. SCOTT,

General Passenger Agent Portland, Ore.